

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A dermal agent for preventing or treating acne,
(A) comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an
ascorbic acid derivative which liberates ascorbic acid in
5 vivo, or a salt thereof and a zinc salt compound or (B)
comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a zinc salt
of said ascorbic acid derivative.

2. An antibacterial dermal agent (A) comprising a
therapeutically effective amount of an ascorbic acid
derivative which liberates ascorbic acid in vivo, or a salt
thereof and a zinc salt compound or (B) comprising a
5 therapeutically effective amount of a zinc salt of said
ascorbic acid derivative.

3. A dermal agent having inhibitory effect on growth
of *Propionibacterium*, (A) comprising a therapeutically
effective amount of an ascorbic acid derivative which
liberates ascorbic acid in vivo, or a salt thereof and a
5 zinc salt compound or (B) comprising a therapeutically
effective amount of a zinc salt of said ascorbic acid
derivative.

4. A dermal agent having inhibitory effect on growth

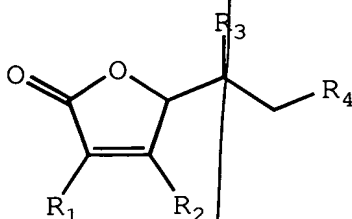
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of *Staphylococcus*, (A) comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an ascorbic acid derivative which liberates ascorbic acid in vivo, or a salt thereof and a
5 zinc salt compound or (B) comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a zinc salt of said ascorbic acid derivative.

5. A dermal agent (A) comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an ascorbic acid derivative which liberates ascorbic acid in vivo, or a salt thereof and a zinc salt compound or (B) comprising a therapeutically
5 effective amount of a zinc salt of said ascorbic acid derivative, said dermal agent having inhibitory activity against lipase derived from mircoorganisms.

6. A dermal agent (A) comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an ascorbic acid derivative which liberates ascorbic acid in vivo, or a salt thereof and a zinc salt compound or (B) comprising a therapeutically
5 effective amount of a zinc salt of said ascorbic acid derivative, said dermal agent having inhibitory activity against hyaluronidase derived from mircoorganisms.

7. The dermal agent as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the ascorbic acid derivative which liberates ascorbic acid in vivo is a compound represented by the

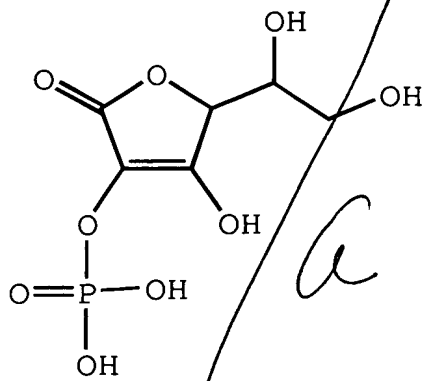
following formula (1):



(1)

wherein R¹ and R² each represents a hydroxyl group, a phosphoric acid group, a pyrophosphoric acid group, a triphosphoric acid group, a polyphosphoric acid group, an O-glucosyl group, a sulfuric acid group, or an acyloxy group which may contain a branched or unsaturated bond, R³ and R⁴ each represents a hydroxyl group, a phosphoric acid group, a pyrophosphoric acid group, a triphosphoric acid group, a polyphosphoric acid group, an O-glucosyl group, a sulfuric acid group, an acyloxy group which may contain a branched or unsaturated bond, an alkyloxy group which may contain a branched or unsaturated bond, or a hydroxyalkyloxy group, and R³ and R⁴ may be bonded as an acetal or ketal to the same carbon atom through an oxygen atom, provided that R¹ and R² are not a hydroxyl group at the same time.

8. The dermal agent as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the salt of an ascorbic acid derivative which liberates ascorbic acid in vivo is a salt of ascorbic acid-2-phosphate represented by the following formula (2):

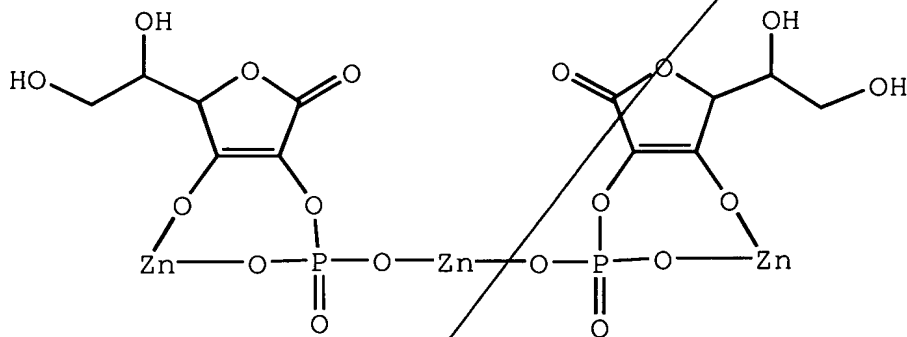


(2)

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9. The dermal agent as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the zinc salt of an ascorbic acid derivative which liberates ascorbic acid in vivo is ascorbic acid-2-phosphate zinc salt represented by the following formula

5 (3):



(3)

10. The dermal agent as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the ascorbic acid derivative which liberates ascorbic acid in vivo is ascorbic acid-2-O-glucoside.

11. A poultice comprising a hydrophilic resin and the

dermal agent described in any one of claims 1 to 6 held therein.

12. The poultice as claimed in claim 11, wherein the hydrophilic resin is a polymer compound selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid polymers, N-vinylcarboxylic acid amide polymers, polyvinyl alcohols and acrylamide
5 polymers.

13. The poultice as claimed in claim 12, wherein the N-vinylcarboxylic acid amide polymer is obtained by copolymerizing N-vinylacetamide and a copolymerizable compound having an ethylenic double bond in water.

14. A composition comprising tretinoin and an ascorbic acid derivative or a salt thereof, as described in any one of claims 1 to 6 in combination with tretinoin.

15. A method for relieving irritation of tretinoin, comprising applying to the skin the dermal agent described in any one of claims 1 to 6 in combination with tretinoin.

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